



Connecting Organizations for  
Regional Disease Surveillance

## CONCEPT AND AGENDA

### INTENSIFIED PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMME

Building capacity in communication and community  
work to better manage the Ebola outbreak

### IN-COUNTRY TRAINING GHANA

Supported by



*London/Lyon, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014*

## I. Concept

### *Ebola outbreak in West Africa - Protocol for Western infection control and African realities*

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa is unprecedented in its extent and dynamic and has presented a new paradigm for infectious disease management. This outbreak demonstrates, once again, that a slow response has devastating effects on people, impairing their health, damaging their economies, restricting their travel and trade, affecting cultures, and ultimately disrupting their lives entirely. Far beyond its biomedical impact, Ebola affects entire societies in West Africa and globally.

The current Ebola outbreak has also demonstrated a clash of cultures: strong, interwoven communities in West Africa have their own organisational, social, cultural and religious structures and rationales, and the application of a western infection control pattern has met with communities' resistance, thus stifling an effort where cooperation is urgently needed.

### *CORDS approach: Community – Care – Communication*

CORDS connects infectious disease surveillance networks globally, working continuously with people at the district and community levels to build trust, strengthen capacity through collaboration and information sharing and engages in skill building activities. CORDS, together with SACIDS, organised an emergency meeting “*EBOLA: Lessons learned from past outbreaks to inform current risk management*” in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 1-2 September 2014. The key lesson learned from this meeting is that infectious disease management has to be developed with and built within communities. Community-based solutions will drive successful outbreak preparation and capacity building in communities to detect and respond to outbreaks. By formulating solutions communities also facilitate a communication process that introduces safe practices for providing care to sick relatives.

Community – Care – Communication represent the leading principles of the “***Intensified Preparedness Programme*** (IPP)”. This programme offers:

- Capacity building for training in affected and not yet affected countries;
- Online material to learn about this capacity building approach; and
- Executive briefings to advise risk management and risk communication

## 2. IPP trainings: approach and target groups

The governing focus of our approach is community-based care and communication. CORDS and its partners work on the basis of strategic risk management and risk communication.

We target:

- Supervisors,
- Coordinators, and
- Decision-makers

that conceptualise and shape frontline health care approaches, risk management, community outreach and risk communication.

We envision training a group of 18 participants from Ghana and surrounding countries who will impart instructive approaches, content, and techniques to a variety of populations across countries. The training takes place over two days and is based on small, interactive and facilitated group work sessions that apply analytical tools to find more suitable, innovative solutions for community-based infectious disease management. We do not rely on a fixed curriculum, but offer an analytical, creative, and flexible framework to develop better and adequate solutions that work in a variety of social and cultural environments.

## 3. Organisation

### *Training dates*

6-7 January 2015

### *Venue*

To be announced

### *Costs*

Participation in this training is free of charge; CORDS, with its grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, will cover participants' travel and accommodation costs, including full board during the two days of the training.

***Organisation and point of contact in Ghana***

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***Travel arrangement***

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## II. Agenda

In-country training: Accra, Ghana, 6-7 January 2015

Venue: TBA

06/01/2015	
09:00 – 09:30	<b>General Introduction:</b> Team & participants
09:30 – 09:50	<b>Concept of training:</b> key principles of community-based interventions; interactive training methods; <b>Introduction to workshop:</b> key principles of biomedical approaches and major lessons learned from previous Ebola outbreaks; Analytical tools: action matrix and change matrix
09:50 – 10:00	<i>Group formation</i>
10:00 – 10:45	<b>Working group 1a: Preparedness:</b> Identifying key attributes of information, communication, care, community and collaboration activities
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 11:45	<b>Working group 1b: Preparedness:</b> Identifying drivers of change
11:50 – 13:00	<i>Presentation</i> and discussion of key attributes and drivers of change in <b>Preparedness</b>
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH
14:00 – 14:45	<b>Working group 2a: Response:</b> Identifying key attributes of information, communication, care, community and collaboration activities
14:45 – 15:30	<b>Working group 2b: Response:</b> Identifying drivers of change
15:30- 15:45	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
15:45 – 17:00	<i>Presentation</i> and discussion of key attributes and drivers of change in <b>Response</b>
17:00 – 17:15	DAY 1 SUMMARY
from 19:00	WORKING DINNER WITH FEEDBACK SESSION

07/01/2015	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Recap of Day 1:</b> Team and participants
09:15 – 10:00	<b>Working group 3a: Recovery:</b> Identifying key attributes of information, communication, care, community and collaboration activities
10:00 – 10:45	<b>Working group 3b: Recovery:</b> Identifying drivers of change
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	<i>Presentation</i> and discussion of key attributes and drivers in <b>Recovery</b>
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Working group 4: Work plan and implementations</b>
14:30 – 15:15	<i>Presentation</i> and discussion of key attributes and principles of <b>implementation</b>
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Tea/Coffee break</i>
15:30- 17:30	<b>Feedback session: Discussion and agreement on core principles</b> Lessons learned for actions and implications
17:30 – 18:00	DAY 2 SUMMARY: NEXT STEPS
from 19:00	WORKING DINNER WITH FEEDBACK SESSION